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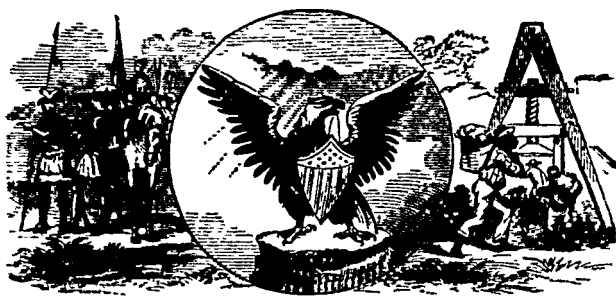
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COMMISSIONER OF  
Immigration and Agriculture.  
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BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONER
OF
IMMIGRATION & AGRICULTURE,
TO THE
LEGISLATURE OF MISSISSIPPI,
FOR THE YEARS 1884-'85.

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PRINTED BY AUTHORITY.  
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1886.



BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION AND AGRICULTURE.

Gov. Robert Lowry, President of Board of Immigration and Agriculture:

SIR—I have the honor to submit the following report of the transactions of the Department of Immigration and Agriculture for the years 1884 and 1885.

MY LAST REPORT.

In making this, my last report, I beg leave to return you my most heartfelt thanks for the courtesy and kindness with which you have always treated me, both as Governor, and as President of the Board of Immigration and Agriculture, and also, through you to the other members of the Board. The kindly relations between us shall always be remembered, in my retirement, as the most pleasant recollections of my life. To the other State officials, I return my thanks for the great interest and assistance given me in the performance of the duties of my office. From the fact of my retirement from office after this term, the suggestions I make in this report may be considered entirely disinterested.

PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAME.

This department had the following publications printed and distributed during the years 1884 and 1885:

10,000 copies of revised Hand-Book of Mississippi.

10,000 small corrected maps of State for Hand-Book.

10,000 small maps for the Illinois Central Railroad to put in a publication of that Company called the "Sunny South."

2,000 copies of a pamphlet showing the Exhibits of our State at the New Orleans, La., Exposition.

2,000 copies of the "Hawkeye," a paper published at Burlington, Iowa; these papers were distributed through the mails to names of persons in the Western States. I furnished the publishers.

Of the 10,000 copies of the Hand-Book of Mississippi, 8,000 were distributed at the New Orleans Exposition, to parties from the North and West who had become interested in our exhibits

and wanted to know more about our State. This work was done by our energetic and indefatigable Commissioner, Major S. A. Jonas, and our Special Agent, Gen. H. E. Williamson.

The Agents of the Illinois Central Railroad distributed the 10,000 copies of the "Sunny South," to persons along the different lines of that Railway in Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois.

Capt. J. F. Merry, the General Western Passenger Agent of the Illinois Central Railroad, who wrote up and published the "Sunny South," did a good work for our State, especially in allowing our small State map to be pasted in the pamphlet.

Of the 2,000 copies of Exposition Exhibits, most of them have been distributed in our State, to the parties through whose energy and enterprise our State Commissioner, Maj. S. A. Jonas, was enabled to make such a splendid display of the industries and products of Mississippi.

Mr. Moses Folsom, in the summer of 1884, visited our State as writer and reporter for the Burlington (Iowa) "Hawkeye," a paper having a circulation of over 30,000. I prevailed upon him to visit Copiah, Hinds, Yazoo and other counties, for the purpose of writing them up, and to give a correct and fair statement of the condition, resources and political affairs in the counties he visited; this he did in a very satisfactory manner. The publication of his articles in the "Hawkeye" attracted attention from all the Northwestern States, and I received hundreds of letters referring to having seen Mr. Folsom's letters in that paper. These letters did much towards allaying the bitterest feelings of the Northwestern people against our State, many of whom have visited Mississippi and have purchased lands and settled among us.

DOWN IN MISSISSIPPI.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS, CLIMATE, HEALTH, RELIGION, TEMPERANCE, POLITICS, RACE QUESTIONS, &C., IN THE SOUTH.

Moses Folsom, as our readers well know, spent the past summer in Mississippi, as correspondent of the Burlington *Hawkeye*, furnishing that paper some very interesting letters concerning affairs in the South. Believing that he could say something of interest to the readers of the *Democrat-Leader*, we put him on the witness stand the other day and propounded several general questions, to which he made brief answers, as follows:

"What are the inducements Mississippi offers to new settlers?"

"Very many; the climate is equal to any in the world; the range of temperature is not as great as in the North; the thermometer seldom goes above 100 in the summer and rarely reaches 10 above zero in the winter; sun-strokes are unknown; thunder storms are not as severe as in the North, insurance reports showing much greater loss from lightning in the Northwest than in the South; the summers are longer in the South—that's about the only difference; the nights are always cool and pleasant for sleeping; the soil for fertility cannot be surpassed in the world—a

large area of the State is equal to the alluvial soil of the Nile; it produces almost everything that grows for man, beast or bird. No country is better and more regularly irrigated by rainfall than Mississippi; the annual rainfall is 50 inches, as compared with 35 in Iowa; the heaviest rains fall during the spring and summer, liberally distributed along through the growing season. These spring and summer rains help to make that country the natural home of berries of all kinds; in fact, it is the home of many kinds of fruits. The peach, plum, pear, fig, grapes of many varieties, strawberries, dewberries, blackberries, mulberries, and melons of various kinds grow in great profusion and perfection, and yield large returns where grown for market. Near the Gulf, in the southern part of the State, the orange, lemon, citron, olive, almond, banana, and occasionally the pineapple are found. A native grape, known as the scuppernong, is a wonderful bearer; the vine will run as long as the owner puts up posts and railings—a single vine has been known to cover a half acre. It makes a splendid wine—we know that it is good, we sampled it, and as open confession is good for the soul, we might as well confess that we sampled it at every opportunity. The fig tree is a prolific bearer, maturing two and three crops in a season—ripe fruit and buds appearing on the tree at the same time. It is of long life, and neither fruit nor tree is subject to disease. One good tree in a dooryard will furnish all the figs an ordinary family can use for eating and preserving. Successive crops of a great variety of vegetables can be raised during the year with outdoor culture. Two crops of both Irish and sweet potatoes and other root crops can be raised, and of lighter vegetables, as peas, beans, lettuce, radishes, etc., a half dozen crops, and down on the coast it is claimed that these latter can be raised every month in the year. Tomatoes and melons are shipped to the North in large quantities; a single acre devoted to tomatoes has yielded \$800 worth. The culture of strawberries is receiving much attention—we've seen several 100 acre patches of strawberries; in a good season an acre will net about \$200. The Northern idea that the South is unhealthy is a mistake. Mortuary statistics furnished by the U. S. census show how little foundation there is for such belief. The census of 1880 gives the per centage of deaths at 1.19 in Mississippi as against 1.67 in Massachusetts, 1.55 in New York, 1.44 in Missouri and 1.32 in Illinois. The State ranks 9th in the Union for healthfulness. The common or endemic diseases are fevers and lung and bowel troubles; the painful diseases peculiar to the colder regions are comparatively unknown; consumption is showing itself with fatal results among the negroes, a disease rather rare among them in slavery times. The Northern man need have no fears as far as heat or disease is concerned. We've been all over the State, from Corinth and Holly Springs in the north to Pass Christian and Pascagoula on the Gulf, from Vicksburg to Meridian, and up the Yazoo river into the so-called swamp region, all during the past July and August, and we didn't suffer

any from the heat, and heard of no sickness, and the doctors all claimed that it was miserably healthy. The State abounds in mineral springs, and in the future health seekers from the North will swarm down there in the summer as well as in the winter, into a genial climate with equable temperature and bright sunshine, breathing balsamic breezes from pine forests and tonic sea air, drinking the life-giving water as it bubbles up from nature's own laboratory, and get the relief and cure the North land cannot furnish. There are millions of acres of vacant land there, for sale at from \$1 to \$10 an acre; there is room for thousands of people; thrifty and intelligent men can there obtain full recognition and returns for every outlay of brain, muscle and money; Northern men are heartily welcomed, and such a thing as social, political or religious prescription is not known. There, as in the North, West or East, the man of character, brains, worth and intelligence take his true position, and enjoys every right, opinion and privilege of an American citizen. Mississippi is the 1st State in the production of cotton, producing in 1880 401 pounds per capita—white labor producing over one-third of the entire yield of 900,000 bales. The State and local indebtedness is smaller than in any Southern State; its rank in this respect is 28th as compared with the other States of the Union. The State suffered enormously during the war, the valuation of 1880 being considerably less than half that of 1860. It is developing very fast, however; the miles of railroad built last year exceeded all the States, I think, without exception. There are fourteen cotton and woolen mills, several of large capacity, the Mississippi Mills, at Wesson, carrying off the first award at the Centennial for cassimeres and jeans. Like all the other Southern States, the foreign born population is small—in Mississippi it is less than one per cent., or 82 to 1000. The foreign immigration has been frightened away by stories of the unhealthfulness, and the dangerous character of the negroes; snakes and insects. A northwestern land grant railroad map circulated in Europe shows the Dismal Swamp extending from Virginia to Texas, taking in almost the entire South."

"Are you not overdrawing the situation? Can Northern men really locate there and not get into trouble?" Yankee like, I'll partially answer that by asking you if Southern men can settle here and live in peace? You know of several men who live here in Chariton who were in the Confederate army, are they molested or made afraid? Northern men, sensible, practical, peaceful, argumentative republicans who are not everlastingly calling the Southern people "rebels," and saying hard things or insults that the hearer must pocket or fight, will have no trouble down there. The Southern man is not quarrelsome, and don't black eyes or bruise noses much, but when he fights he fights to hurt—he's been known to shoot and carve. But the Southern people are just as law-abiding and just as desirous of their personal safety, comfort and happiness as the people of any section of the coun-

try. The Northern man who makes negroes his companions and tells them that the Southern whites intend to re-enslave them as soon as the democratic party gets into power, will get no social recognition from the white people, and if he become too 'intolerant' in his efforts to provoke race troubles, may possibly get notice to make himself scarce, or else get hurt, as he deserves. Conditions are very different in the South from the North. There are two races there, one white, possessing the intelligence, property, virtue and industry of the country, and another black, where you find to a great extent the ignorance, immorality, squalor and thriftlessness of the country. This latter class, unfortunately, greatly outnumber the former. The blacks are there and there to stay, and the whites are doing all within their power to better their condition. The census of 1880 shows 5,000 free public schools—a majority of them for blacks—in the State, exclusive of over 1,000 private schools. There are five institutions for higher education supported by the State—three for blacks and two for whites. Nine-tenths of the property of the State belongs to the whites, and of course they pay the taxes necessary to support the schools and government. It is a sad thing that the negro is poor and ignorant and superstitious and thriftless. Twenty years of freedom cannot suffice to bring up to the level of the Anglo-Saxon, a race coming from savagery down through centuries of slavery. Rapid advances are being made among many of the colored people, who realize the moral and mental helplessness of a great part of their race. Returning to your question as to the safety of Northern men in the South, I wish you would print the following statement from the pen of Capt. C. H. Townsend, who served during the war in a Wisconsin regiment, and after the war a Federal revenue officer in Mississippi, but now editor of the *McComb City Intelligencer* :

“ ‘We are heartily tired and disgusted with the everlasting cant about the danger of the Northerner settling in the South. The immigrant does not hesitate to brave a life upon the wild western frontier, cutting himself loose from friends, politics and society, and debarring himself from all the privileges of churches, schools and social intercourse, and trusting their lives to the tender mercies of the savage and wild beast, and yet professes that he dare not avail himself of the balmy climate and fruitful soil of the South, for fear his political opinions may be interfered with. Now, this is all foolishness. The people of the South are neither savages nor barbarians. They can distinguish between true men and professional vagabonds; and we know whereof we affirm, when we say that any person, without regard to political opinions or creeds, who comes South and conducts himself in a manner that would be tolerated by any well-regulated community will be received, respected and honored as he may merit.’ ”

“How are the people on temperance, religious and other moral questions; are they temperate and religious?”

“Both. The Methodists have nearly 800 churches in the

State, the Baptists 700, the Presbyterians 300, and almost every other denomination is represented; indeed, a man, white or black, who does not belong to church ordinarily won't count for much in his community. The seating capacity of the churches of Mississippi is equal to nearly half the population of the State, a fact not true of Iowa or any other Northern State. We saw very few drunken men during quite an extensive trip through the State. In a good many counties the sale of liquor is not permitted. In the South the democratic party is for prohibition; in the North it is the republicans. There are over 300 masonic lodges in the State, with Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, Patrons of Husbandry and other societies, located in all parts of the State. The hand of church fellowship and fraternal love is open wide to grasp those of worthy people from any section. In the matter of morals the whites compare with the people of the North, while among the negroes morality is at a low ebb."

"What labor system prevails?"

There are three systems of labor in vogue among the land owners: the wages system, the share system, and the rental system. On some plantations all three plans are practiced, the laborers being allowed their choice of methods.

Under the wages plan, hands get from \$8 to \$15 a month, with food, quarters and fuel. This is the best plan, as it enables the employer to control his labor and crops and keep up his improvements. As a rule, however, the blacks prefer a partnership arrangement in the crop; he thinks he is more of a free man to share in the crops than to work for wages.

Under the share system the land owner furnishes everything, and the crops when gathered are divided according to contract, usually half to each, between the landlord and the laborer. To this system may be attributed the slovenly and unprofitable methods met with in all parts of the State. This plan makes the negro and the mule princes of the land. If the crop fails the planter is the loser.

Under the rental system land is rented for a specified sum of money or pounds of cotton—\$5 to \$8 per acre, or 60 to 80 pounds of cotton. Under the law this plan is a safe one for the land owner, for he is entitled to his rent to the exclusion of all other claims. The tenants make their own arrangements for food, the landlord furnishing quarters and fuel."

"Is it a stock country?"

"None better; there are over four hundred native grasses, more than a hundred having had their feed values established by chemical analysis. There are many fine herds of Jerseys, Devons, Holsteins and other blooded cattle in the State. Col. Montgomery's herd of Jerseys, 250 head, is the largest in the United States. Stock can live out all winter without a particle of attention."

"What is the political situation?"

"The people don't talk politics much; I didn't hear any dis-

cussions, the whites are nearly all Democrats, the blacks nearly or quite all Republicans. The whites don't seem to care much about national politics, they simply want to control their local affairs. The war swept away the live stock, farm implements, buildings and much personal property; in fact, when the war ended there wasn't much left except land. From '65 to '70 the State was practically under military authority, and from '70 to '75 under negro rule. The negroes filled nearly all of the offices, justices, county offices and members of the Legislature, many unable to read or write. Taxation in some counties reached \$30 on each \$1000, and in '75 six millions of the thirteen million acres in farms had been forfeited to the State for taxes; the war took the personal property and negro misrule was confiscating the lands. Many white people left the State in despair, abandoning home, friends, everything. Those who remained, driven to desperation, by a preconcerted movement in '75 captured the polls and the offices. It was a contest between the whites in minority, who owned the property, and the blacks, in large majority, who didn't own anything. The negroes were very ignorant, intensely superstitious, and easily excited. Bands of white men rode over the country at night, clothed in hideous garb, the negroes believing them to be the ghosts of Confederate soldiers killed in the war. There were a number of riots at meetings, particularly in the large negro counties. The most serious was that at Clinton in Hinds county, where 15 or 18 negroes and 4 or 5 whites were killed. It is estimated that several hundred negroes were killed during the campaign, nearly all in riots. The whites of the South are not savages to ride around at night to shoot and kill men and women, any more than will the people of the North."

Through our grand exhibit at the New Orleans Exposition, and with the above publications and distribution of the same, I can say, without the fear of contradiction, that our State is better and more favorably known and advertised than ever before in her history.

THE MISSISSIPPI EXHIBIT AT THE EXPOSITION IN 1884 AND '85.

It is nothing more than simple justice to Maj. S. A. Jonas, our enterprising State Commissioner, to embody in this report, the following article written by said Commissioner, for the Times-Democrat, New Orleans, La.:

WASHINGTON, August 27, 1885.

Mississippi entered the World's Industrial and Cotton Exposition a stranger to the country and the world. The generation with memories scarce reaching back further than the days when she emerged from battle in her mourning robes, had no idea that before the war it was her habit to double her population every ten

years; had no thought that she was building splended factories everywhere when the storm burst; had no dream that she was the largest manufacturer of cotton gins in the United States, and one of the largest purchasers of agricultural machinery prior to 1861, and that almost all of her plantations made, not only their bread and meat, but to a large extent their wagons, plows, implements, shoes and clothing. They only knew her in her desolation, as the war and its succeeding years of misrule left her, and to-day use the phrase "New South," where the term partially resurrected South is the only one applicable to her present condition, bright as that condition is when compared with her situation ten years ago.

Hardly named abroad in connection with forestry and lumbering, she made her bow to the world at New Orleans when she welcomed the mighty throng to vast structures composed of pine and cypress of the best quality, representing 19,000,000 feet of her forest products, cut by a single one of her many great mills, and supplied as rapidly as it could be put in place.

Of course this startled a country that learned, for the first time that Mississippi contained the largest compact areas of virgin forest in the Union. The world was hardly prepared for the revelation that our coasts and streams, with their grand saw and planing mills, are rapidly opening up markets in the Spanish, Portugese, French and English Americas for the surplus products of our soil, while all through the State busy mills are cutting lordly trees for home consumption and the markets of the west and northwest.

The timber exhibit of Mississippi was as interesting as beautiful and astounding.

This exhibit at once created a demand for our timber lands at prices unknown prior to the Exposition, and a pleasing fact in this connection is that the buyers in very many instances are home capitalists. Gentlemen from Michigan, Maine, Wisconsin, Dakota and Indiana have made heavy investments, and we know of instances in which they sold again at a large advance and reinvested.

The timber exhibit was reinforced by manufactured articles from our native woods, including white oak pipe staves and heads from the steam factory at Aberdeen; hollow ware made from tupelo gum; a handsome buggy made in Yazoo City from thirteen kinds of wood, including the beautiful and durable red gum; handsome wine stand, wool cases, tables, etc., made at the Columbus woodenware factory from oak, ash, walnut, holly, cedar and gum; baskets of all kinds made from white oak, and many other articles which attracted an attention from American and European woodworkers that promises to make our State the rival of Indiana in its hardwood industries, whereas our resources in this line were hardly known to the people of the State prior to the Exposition, or beyond her borders save to a few foreign corporations that have largely profitted by their information in the purchase of immense timber tracts.

In this connection we cannot pass unnoted the wonderful contribution to our timber display from Wilkinson county, consisting of an immense frame, containing sixty panels representing as many mercantile woods, all highly polished, and each having painted upon its surface the leaf, flower and nut or fruit of the tree, executed in the highest style of art, and with absolute fidelity to nature, by Miss Blanche McManus, of Woodville.

This instructive and beautiful work was studied, in connection with the hundreds of huge discs, by thousands of interested visitors, and, as Mississippi also exhibited the nuts and seeds of most of her trees, it was easy for those who lingered in her timber area to obtain thorough information in regard to the forestry of this great lumber State.

GRAINS.

Until she "held up the mirror of nature" at the Exposition Mississippi has had little reputation since the war as a grain State. Those who knew her for years after the surrender as an immense purchaser of Western corn had forgotten that in *ante bellum* days an importation of corn or bacon into the State, except to supply new clearings in the Mississippi bottom, was a thing unheard of, while during the war she contributed enormously of her surplus to the armies of the Confederacy.

For years after the surrender her demands upon the West stimulated the agricultural industries of that region, and supplied the south-bound trains and steamers with a large proportion of their freights, and outsiders attributed this to our inability to grow corn successfully, not realizing that corn is with us rather a tool for making cotton than a market crop, and that for years the indebtedness of the farmers incident to restocking their farms compelled them to give chief attention to cotton; nor do they generally know that the plow team of the cotton States require from three to four times the amount of corn for their maintenance needed for an equal number of animals elsewhere, because the culture of the staple involves continuous plowing from December to July.

At the Exposition every portion of the State and most of the counties were grandly represented by corn exhibits. Our corn was principally shown in three bushel cribs, each crib representing a certain county, and the fairness of the display was evidenced by the fact that the corn was sent to New Orleans right from the fields, and was shucked in the Exposition building and tossed into the cribs without even the semblance of picking or selecting. This grain, taken as a whole, was equal to any corn exhibit ever made in the United States, and as an evidence of the interest it awakened, the farmers of the Northwest were continually attracted to these cribs, and the demands upon them for seed was so excessive that it was difficult to keep up the corn display without continual shipments from home. It was generally conceded by these visitors that our corn exhibit was the best in

the building, and not a few were ready to admit that in the near future the South would be absolutely independent of the West in this particular and her rival in meeting export demand, though but few could have expected this blessing to befall us in the first season after the Exposition, as is the case with Mississippi at least.

If visitors were astonished by our corn, they were more surprised to see oats of the choicest quality grown on all characters of land, exhibited from all parts of the State. In regard to this great cereal, the census has never done us justice, as our farmers almost invariably feed oats in the straw, only thrashing out enough for seed, while the census only took notice of threshed oats in Mississippi. While representing an enormous acreage and generous yield, Mississippi oats have made but a petty census showing. There was a great demand on our Commissioner for seed oats, and large quantities in the aggregate were distributed to farmers of the Western and Pacific States.

In wheat the exhibit came up nobly. Every part of the State was well represented, and while this display was useful and instructive to the thousands of strangers who were intelligently and interestedly studying the resources and capabilities of the State, it was yet more beneficial to Mississippians, who found among the exhibits the varieties best suited to each of our many kinds of soil.

Upland rice was there in abundance from the various portions of the State, and though the census shows an immense increase in our product of this great staple since 1870, it gives faint idea of the magnitude of the advance.

In barley and rye all parts of the State were well represented, while bottom, hill, prairie and seacoast counties vied in their exhibits of German, Hungarian and pearl millet.

In regard to grass seeds, Mississippians, prior to the Exposition, had no idea of the extent of the harvest, and were as much surprised as outsiders at the number of exhibits of seeds of blue grass, white clover, red clover, alfalfa, millet, rye grass, orchard grass, Hungarian grass, timothy, velvet grass, and lespedesa, or Japanese clover. The seeds of the Japanese clover were an especial surprise to visitors, as it has been frequently asserted in standard publications that it does not seed in this country; but Mr. Robert Brown, of Monroe county, who made the exhibit at the Exposition, has sent large quantities annually to the fair at Aberdeen. All the lespedesa seed that could be spared, were given to stock farmers from the Pacific Coast, who were anxious to try it in that region.

OUR GRASSES.

Mississippi has had no more formidable obstacle to contend with in her effort to secure desirable immigrants than the widespread impression that she was not a grazing State, and that grass would not flourish in her soil and climate. The world did not

know or had forgotten that before the war almost every Mississippi planter was a stock farmer; that thousands of blooded cattle fed upon her prairies, and luxuriated in the rich pastures of her valleys. They do not realize that farming in the black lands of Mississippi means ceaseless and tireless battle against the grass that springs spontaneously in the furrow almost as soon as the plow has passed, and that for nine or ten months of the year, and often eleven or twelve, stock will keep fat and sleek in the range without an ounce of food except what nature's larder affords.

Mississippi, in addition to innumerable minor grasses, of which she exhibited specimens, has three great pasturage resources, either of which would guarantee supremacy in stock-raising and each mysterious in its coming; the crab grass, the Bermuda grass, and the *lespedesia striata* or Japanese clover. All three of them are, we believe, peculiar to the South.

Mississippi's splendid exhibit of hay, the largest and most comprehensive at the Exposition, was a revelation to visitors from the North and West, as well as to thousands of her own people; and if she gained nothing more through the influence of this great Fair than the reputation she now enjoys of being a rich pasture land and the home of the best grasses, it would grandly compensate her for all that her exhibit cost, for it has given a value to her soil and climate that must result in the near future, and is even now resulting, in bringing thousands of stock-farmers to her from all the States and countries, and giving an immense impetus to this industry among her own people.

In the hay exhibit she demonstrated the fact that every county was well adapted to grass-growing and stock farming, and the specimens presented consisted of fifty-two commercial bales, including timothy, Japanese clover, water grass, wild millet, white clover, red clover, burr clover, crab grass, boar grass, Bermuda grass, chicken corn, red top, peavine, milo maize, velvet grass, rice straw and sassafras, all of the best quality. In addition to the bales the grasses came from all the counties in sheaves and bundles, including a large quantity of red clover from Washington county in the Mississippi bottom, between four and five feet high, and incomparably the finest clover exhibit at the Exposition.

Among the most prominent exhibitors were Capt. J. W. Howard, of Monroe county, and Mr. Dunbar Hunt, of Jefferson. The former, from his 1100-acre grass farm in the prairie, which includes 125 acres in red clover, sent eleven varieties of hay in bales, while Mr. Hunt, from his Mississippi river farm, contributed seven bales; and both of these gentlemen sent as fine timothy hay as the country can boast.

GRAPES AND WINES.

If it was a surprise to the world to see Mississippi strongly represented in the grasses, hay, corn and small grains, it was much more so to find her among the largest exhibitors of wines, and

openly challenging her sisters to competition, and offering to let her rivals select all of the judges. This exhibit, in view of our seeking population from the vine-growing peoples of Europe, was peculiarly important and useful, for it proved the great adaptability of our soil and sun to grape culture in all its phases, and the rare excellence of our vintage. Every portion of the State was represented in this exhibit—lowlands, uplands, hills, prairies, seacoast and swamp. There were between three and four hundred bottles on her wine-stand, representing twenty counties and thirty-one vineyards. The varieties were Scuppernong, Muscadine, Catawba-Delaware, Martha, North Virginia Seedling, Sweet Concord, Pure Concord, Virgin Scuppernong, Rhine, White, Red, Madeira, Port (ten years old,) Sherry, Maiden's Blush, Ives and Concord, Herbemont, Native Concord, Aromatic, Ives' Seedling, Champagne, three varieties of Claret, and Clinton—the Scuppernong representing three or four varieties.

One exhibitor, Dr. J. M. Heard, of Clay county, exhibited nineteen brands of excellent wine, all made from the product of his own vineyard. Dille & Son, of Oktibbeha county, who perhaps have the most extensive vineyard in the South, exhibited six varieties. Mr. J. P. Rogers, of the same county, Mr. T. C. Daniel, of Monroe, and Mr. F. Buttner, of Jackson county, each exhibited three varieties, while many of the large vineyards of the State were not represented at all.

The value of this exhibit to Mississippi is incalculable if only estimated by its influence upon her own people; but, as it was, it attracted the continuous attention of foreigners, who eagerly sought details regarding growth, culture and produce of our wines, examined with surprise the enormous sections of vines in our timber department, and devoted much of their correspondence with European journals to a rehearsal of the vintage wonders of our State.

To the people of the Pacific slope and the Ohio Valley and Northwest it was a revelation to discover counties in our State, like Winston, from which the native wines had absolutely banished the fiery product of the still, and that boasted 400 or 500 acres in vineyards; and wine producers like Dille & Son, of Oktibbeha county, who have 40,000 healthy vines under culture.

The discovery, so to speak, of a land more favorable to the grape than the valley of the Rhine; where every acre in its area of 47,000 square miles tempts the culture of the generous vine, and where no enemies to its growth or bearing exist, has been chronicled by the press of the world, and it will not be long ere our grape growers are reinforced by the capital and skill of thousands of new comers bred to this important industry.

In addition to grape products, the State had numerous exhibits of brandies, cordials, etc., made from fruits, including the blackberry, elderberry, peach, apple, dewberry, mulberry and whortleberry.

WOOL.

Although our mills have been quietly capturing the prizes for

woolen fabrics at all the great fairs, including the Centennial, and before the war when Mississippi's flocks were much larger than they are now, she took the first prize at the great international wool exhibit in England; she was comparatively unknown to the world as a sheep growing State until she appeared with her wool exhibit at the Exposition. This was quite natural, for in the wool industry as in many of her other prominent industrial interests, she had, through the carelessness and indifference of her own people, mainly, been shamefully misrepresented in the census.

Twenty-eight counties appeared among our exhibitors of wool at the Exposition, including Issaquena, Wilkinson, DeSoto, Warren, Bolivar, Washington and Jefferson, of the river counties, and all parts of the prairies, hills, piny woods and seacoast.

There were fifty-one exhibits—in many instances each exhibit being a fleece. Some of these fleeces were of immense weight, notably a grade Cotswold sent by Major R. C. Patty, of Noxubee county, and two Cotswolds by Mr. P. M. B. Waite, of Tate county.

Among the varieties exhibited were Merino, grade Merino, Cotswold, grade Cotswold, common, good common, Angora, Cashmere, Southdown, etc.

Most of the fleeces were exhibited unwashed, and the notable peculiarity of those from the southern counties was their freedom from burrs; and this, with the additional facts that sheep are raised in that region without any attention, shelter or feeding, absolutely without cost; are free from almost all the diseases to which sheep are incident elsewhere, and that the clip is worth more in the markets of the world than other wool from the same varieties of sheep, determined many Northwestern men to find homes in South Mississippi as soon as they can dispose of their present holdings.

TOBACCO.

Prior to 1838, we are told, tobacco was the leading staple of Mississippi, and this would have been so to-day but for the wonderful returns made by our fresh lands to those who at first timidly ventured into cotton culture. That every county in the State is admirably adapted to the production of tobacco of rare excellence was amply demonstrated to our people and the world at the Exposition, where every character of soil was represented by fine exhibits. Among these were some of surpassing excellence, and it was the opinion of experts that Mississippi did not present a sample "that would not grade well in any market." Of the bright tobaccos exhibited by her the producers had little idea of their excellence or value until they heard the expressions of experts who clustered around the samples, and in one instance, at least, that of a Jasper county exhibit, made by Major M. F. Berry, of Pachutta. It was pronounced equal to the best Cuban product for making the finer qualities of cigars, and a firm of Northern manufacturers offered him a handsome price for all of that kind he

could supply. The result in this case is that Major Berry will give great attention hereafter to tobacco culture, and contemplates the early establishment of a cigar factory to work up the product from his own lands.

Tobacco was reported in the census of 1880 by sixty-two out of the seventy-four counties in the State, but it is well known to our people that but few planters in the black lands gave it in at all to the census takers, and that any of the large counties could probably have reported a product of half the total given for the State (414,000 pounds). Since the Exposition and its wise teachings and demonstrations, we hope for grand results in this line, and to see Mississippi ere many years take high position as a tobacco State.

HONEY.

The chief apiary exhibit in the Mississippi Department was made by Dr. O. R. Blanton, of Washington county, who had in place 144 packages of honey, representing his colony of 500 hives; he also exhibited beeswax, hives of his own invention, all of the tools and appliances of the bee farm, and photographic views of his apiary. Mr. W. B. Baker, of DeSoto, also made a fine exhibit, but the flourishing bee farms of Yazoo, Clay and Hinds counties were not represented.

SUGAR AND SUGAR CANE.

Fine specimens of sugar made from the Cuban cane were exhibited from Harrison county, on the south coast; Choctaw county, in the hill country, and Noxubee county, in the eastern prairie; while Louisiana cane and molasses were exhibited from all sections of the State. Sorghum syrups were presented from many counties, and all of fine quality.

COTTON.

Of Mississippi's cotton exhibit it is hardly necessary to speak. Every one expected her to lead in that line at the Exposition, as she always does in its production, and of course she did it, showing the staple in every shape and variety, and in seed, stalk, boll, lint, bale, fabrics, oil, oilcake, seed meal, and in a number of fine paintings and embroideries illustrative of its culture and harvest.

Among the many exhibits we must, in one instance, particularize. The Misses Lindsey, of Harrison county, made a beautiful display of long staple cotton, in boll, seed and lint, cultivated and picked by their own fair hands.

Mississippi claims that she is to-day, as she was in 1860, 1870, and 1880, the leading cotton State of the Union. Texas always claims precedence in "off years," but whenever the census is taken she glides gracefully back to third place, and the record stands: Mississippi, Georgia and Texas.

FISH.

Our fish exhibit, consisting of natural specimens in alcohol, represented about seventy varieties from the south coast, and while undue attention was given to presenting curious and rare denizens of the deep, enough food fish were exhibited to convey a good idea of the rare resources we possess in that line. Immense quantities of game fish are caught off our south coast for the New Orleans and Mobile markets, and this industry, together with the canning establishments in that region, give employment to many people.

FRUITS.

Our fruit exhibit was probably the most extensive at the Exposition, comprising almost every variety grown on the North American continent. This exhibit included 248 jars of fruits in solution, besides an immense exhibit of fruits from cold storage in plates. Large as this list is, it would have been twice as great but for accidents and delays in transportation, which resulted in a loss of fully fifty per cent. from breakage of glass, leaking of solution and spoiling of specimens intended for cold storage.

Among the specimens exhibited was a china sand pear weighing $32\frac{1}{2}$ ounces, a peach weighing $16\frac{1}{2}$ ounces, a tomato weighing 24 ounces; these were the largest specimens at the Exposition. We had also the largest Japanese persimmons, Chinese quinces, pecans and finest oranges.

Among the premiums taken was the great sweepstake prize and gold medal for the "best collection of fruits from any State or country." For this we exhibited 164 distinct varieties.

We took the premium for best ten varieties of apples for the South; premiums on four distinct varieties of apples; for best plate of pears; for best three varieties of pears; for largest and handsomest pears; for best plate of peaches of any variety; for best plate of pomegranates; best exhibit of quinces; for best pecans of each variety, and on thirty varieties of strawberries.

In oranges Mississippi was there to compete with the world, but found that the rules restricted her to competition with the Gulf States west of Florida, including Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. In this competition she took all the prizes, consisting of one gold medal, three silver medals and \$210 in money. The prizes were given in this line as follows: For best collection of not less than twenty varieties; for best fifteen varieties; for best five varieties; for best plate of any variety.

This grand fruit display, made under the direction of the great "Strawberry King," Dr. H. E. McKay, of Madison county, whose strawberry farm of 135 acres is one of the wonders of the horticultural world, has been of incalculable benefit to Mississippi, not only spreading her renown to the ends of the earth as the home of almost every fruit that grows, but encouraging all of her doubting children to enter eagerly and confidently into the culture

of the various kinds and varieties proven by this exhibit to be well adapted to our soil and sun.

VEGETABLES.

All kinds and varieties of vegetables grown on the American Continent were exhibited in excellence and profusion, and her exhibit of shelled peas and beans was one of the prettiest sights at the Fair. She also exhibited all the mill products from grain in excellent samples.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.

Her exhibit of dairy products represented the Jersey farms of Hon. H. L. Muldrow, Col. W. B. Montgomery, of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, and Mr. J. H. Odeneal, while splendid specimens of butter from the ordinary cows of the State were exhibited by Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Robert Brown and Messrs. B. C. Sims and James Bryant.

Mr. J. H. Odeneal, of Hinds county, was the only Mississippian who entered for the sweepstake premium offered for the best tub of fifty pounds of butter from the Southern and Southwestern States, including the Carolinas, Virginia, Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Arkansas, Tennessee, Texas, Florida, Louisiana, Missouri and Mississippi, and he won the prize.

Mississippi boasts the largest and best Jersey herds in the Southern States, while the admirable quality of her common cattle is generally conceded by stock men. Before the Exposition she was shipping large quantities of butter to distant markets, but the Exposition has given new impetus to the trade and encouraged many more of her citizens to go into the dairy business. One of the best results has been the establishing of a first-class creamery—the first in the South that we know of—at her Agricultural and Mechanical College, that is progressing so well that 50,000 pounds of butter is confidently expected to be put on the market by it during the next twelve months.

But this article has already far exceeded in length its anticipated proportions, and yet fails to detail half the benefits derived by Mississippi from her first collective exhibit at a national or international fair. Suffice it to say that the Exposition for her, at least, planted the seeds of a prosperity almost boundless in its promises and probabilities.

From the opening of that Exposition will date the advertisement to the world of a resurrected South.

S. A. JONAS.

THE PRESENT STATE EXHIBIT AT EXPOSITION,

MERIDIAN, MISS., Dec. 31, 1885.

* * * * I neglected to tell you, when in Jackson, about my visit to the Exposition, and especially to the Mississippi De-

partment. I found the Department completely changed, and for the better, and am surprised that Mr. Wharton could have accomplished so much with so little money. It is far superior to any display in the building, and I examined them all for comparison's sake, because I saw at glance that it was better than ours of last year, and wanted to know how the other States stood. I am certain the Department will attract attention from anyone, not only for space occupied, but for completeness and arrangement. I think Mr. Wharton deserves much credit, and I wish you would show this to the Governor, and tell him that in a general way I haven't said half enough.

H. V. WALL.

THE SALE OF UNITED STATES LANDS IN MISSISSIPPI.

The sale of United States land in this State from January 1st, 1882, to December 15th, 1885, as compiled from the books of the Register of U. S. Lands, amounts to 648,110 acres, at \$1.25 per acre.

These lands have been sold to 1235 different purchasers, a large majority of whom were from Northern and Western States. During the same time the homestead entries reached the amount of 501,450 acres; these homesteads were entered by 4,537 different persons, mostly citizens of our own State.

THE SALE OF LANDS FORFEITED FOR TAXES.

The sale of lands forfeited for taxes, by the State Auditor, from January 1st, 1882, to December 15th, 1885, amounted to 711,780 acres. These lands were either redeemed or purchased by settlers who have made their homes in our State. There still remains in the hands of the State Auditor about 950,000 acres of forfeited lands. Contrasting this year 1885, with 1875, in which year 6,000,000 acres of land were on the Auditor's books as forfeited for taxes, we will see, that in ten years 5,000,000 acres of land have been restored to the tax rolls of the State. To better show the immense sale of lands in our State I will make a brief summary of lands sold since 1880.

SUMMARY OF LANDS SOLD.

	Acres.
State lands sold by Auditor from January 1st, 1880, to December 15th, 1885.....	1,269,740
United States lands sold by Register from January 1st, 1880, to December 15th, 1885.....	1,023,880
State, swamp and overflowed land sold by Commissioner, from January, 1880, to December 1885....	408,120
Levee lands sold by order of the Chancery Court since 1880	1,000,000

Total number of acres sold since 1880..... 3,701,740

The above summary does not include the homestead entries for the same time, amounting to 501,450 acres.

Such large purchases of land in Mississippi, proves conclusively, that the attention of the people from other States and from other countries has been turned to the unsurpassed advantages of our State, and I would most respectfully suggest, that the advertising publications and bureau of information to be kept up, and liberal appropriations be made for that purpose, so that my successor in office may do good and effective work for the State.

RAILWAYS IN MISSISSIPPI.

Mississippi is now well supplied with railway facilities. The completion of the Louisville, New Orleans and Texas Railway, a distance of 310 miles in our State, opens up the whole Mississippi River Valley, giving facilities of transportation to the finest section of farming, planting, grazing and timber lands in the world. Already towns and villages are springing up all along that line of railway and the price of lands is greatly increasing in value.

The Illinois Central Railway has completed and in operation the branch from Jackson to Yazoo City, a distance of 45 miles. This branch affords transportation to a fine section of farming and grazing lands. The branch from Kosciusko to Aberdeen is also finished and in operation, a distance of 86 miles, opening up and giving railway facilities to a splendid section of country for farming, stock-breeding, or mixed agriculture. This year the Illinois Central Railway Company will continue the Yazoo City branch to Memphis, Tenn., having already surveyed the line and placed under contract 70 miles, from Yazoo City to the southern boundary of Tallahatchie county. This railroad will open up some of the very best lands in the State.

The Memphis, Selma and Brunswick, or as the new Company calls it, the Memphis, Birmingham and Atlantic Railroad, has completed the line from Memphis, Tenn., to Holly Springs, Miss., a distance of 45 miles, affording another outlet for the trade of Holly Springs, and the products of North Mississippi. This road is being surveyed from Holly Springs to Birmingham, Alabama, with good prospect of early completion to that point.

In the past three years the following railways have been completed and put in operation in our State:

	Miles.
L., N. O. & T. R. R. main stem.....	310
L., N. O. & T. R. R. branch to Arkansas City.....	23
L., N. O. & T. R. R. branch to Lake Washington	25
Memphis & Holly Springs R. R.....	45
I. C. R. R. branch to Yazoo City.....	45
I. C. R. R. branch to Aberdeen.....	87
N. O. & Northeastern.....	160
Total.....	695
Miles of Railway previously constructed	1224
Total number of miles.....	1919

MANUFACTORIES IN MISSISSIPPI.

The number of manufactories in Mississippi of the various kinds, are 2,975, with a capital invested of about \$20,000,000. The annual production of all the manufacturing interests in the State, is near \$18,000,000. The articles manufactured are, cotton and woolen goods, cotton yarns, cotton seed oil and cake, lumber, furniture, agricultural implements, wagons, iron castings, machinery, etc. The stringency of the money markets has had its effect on all kinds of manufacturing in this State, but most of the mills, factories and shops have worked full time during the past two years, whilst many of the great mills and factories at the North and in the West have been shut down one-half the time. I have no doubt our manufactured productions will be more than doubled in the next decade. It is evident to any practical mind that Mississippi is making great progress in all her industries and especially in manufactures.

INQUIRIES FOR LAND IN MISSISSIPPI.

To show the character of the inquiries for land, etc., in this State, I will quote from some of the letters received at this office from the various States in the North and West during the past month:

PAXTON, ILL., Nov. 19, 1885.

Please send us Hand-Books and maps of Mississippi. We will distribute them to the best advantage. We hope to be able to send quite a number of parties to your State this winter.

Yours truly, DAY BROS.

NORTH WASHINGTON, Hardin Co., Ohio, }
December 1, 1885. }

SIR: Wishing to procure some reliable information about your State, I address you this letter. Please send any pamphlets, maps, etc., you may have on hand. Many of my friends here wish to move to a warmer climate, and seem to prefer Mississippi. Send soon, and oblige,

JOHN DEPPELLER.

MANKOTA, MINN., Dec. 9, 1885.

Please send books and maps describing your State. Many parties desire information, with intention of purchasing farms and moving to a warmer climate.

Yours respectfully, WM. THOMAS.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Nov. 25, 1885.

DEAR SIR: Does your State issue for distribution any work containing statistics, etc.?—if so, please forward some, as many of my friends here desire information as to lands, climate, etc., of Mississippi.

Yours respectfully,

BYRON M. MARBLE.

CLINTON, IOWA, Nov. 25, 1885.

DEAR SIR: I have been greatly interested in your "Hand-Book" of Mississippi of 1882. It is the most concise and comprehensive of anything of that character I have yet seen. Have you put forth a later work? if so, please forward me several, as I with many of my friends wish to move to a warmer climate.

Yours, etc.,

W. L. HALL.

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY.

DEAR SIR: Please forward me Hand-Book of Mississippi, with official map, etc., showing pine lands, etc.

Yours truly,

W. J. TROWBRIDGE.

CHEALSEA, MICH., Nov. 25, 1885.

DEAR SIR: Many people in my neighborhood intend to go South this winter, with a view of making it their home. As they wish to get information about your State before going, and your Hand-Book possesses it, will you kindly send me $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen copies to place in their hands?

Yours truly,

B. H. ELLIS.

SALEM, CONN., Nov. 23, 1885.

SIR: Kindly send me any printed or other matter in reference to lands in your State, and any other information necessary for a new settler to have.

Very respectfully yours, etc.,

E. T. MAGENNIS.

RYAND FARM, Verango Co., P. A., }
November 15, 1885. }

DEAR SIR: Will you please send me Hand-Book and map of Mississippi? I, with several of my friends, am going South this winter to look for a good, healthy place for homes. Please give us all the information you can.

Yours truly,

JOHN C. WRIGHT.

BELTON, S. C., Nov. 15, 1885.

DEAR SIR: Please send me Hand-Book of Mississippi. I am thinking of locating in your State. GEO. P. BROWN.

YADKINSVILLE, N. C., Nov. 23, 1885.

DEAR SIR: Please send me all the information you can about Mississippi, as it is my wish, with many of my neighbors, to make our homes in your State.

Yours respectfully, J. Y. McKNIGHT.

MARKLE, Huntington Co., Ind., }
November 23, 1885. }

DEAR SIR: I wish to get information in regard to lands in your State. Where can I get good lands suitable for a colony? Would like the northeastern part of the State.

Yours respectfully, JOHN J. SCOTTON.

BELTON, Coffee County, Tenn.

DEAR SIR: Please send me what information you have in regard to the pine and cypress timber in Mississippi.

Yours truly, F. J. HALL.

PATAPSCO, Carroll Co., Md., }
November 26, 1885. }

Please send me Hand-Book of Mississippi, as I, with several of my friends, wish to visit your State for the purpose of making it our homes.

Yours respectfully,
W. P. RIDGELEY.

NEW BRIGHTON, Staten Island, N. Y., }
December 3, 1885. }

DEAR SIR: With friends here and in England, I am interested in various properties in your State, and would feel deeply indebted to you for the following information: Have you any late geological map of the State? Any pamphlets or other information published that will assist in some emigration schemes? While in England this summer I found quite an interest being taken in your State.

Very respectfully yours,

JOHN EDWARD HAYNES.

Besides the above, hundreds more have been received, which were all answered, and the information desired given.

THE CONDITION OF AGRICULTURE IN MISSISSIPPI.

The past two years has been a period of great financial embarrassment to the agriculturists of the United States, even more so in the Northern and Western than in the Southern States. The stringency of the times has had its effect upon Mississippi, forcing the farmers to make their crops upon less borrowed money, or advances, than any crop since the war; hence, when the crop of cotton has been harvested and marketed the farmers of our State will have more money, notwithstanding the low price of cotton, than for any one year in the last decade. The corn crop has been harvested and it is the best that has been made in our State in many years.

DIVERSITY OF CROPS.

The farmers of our State are turning their attention to a considerable extent to diversifying their crops. Col. Stokes, of Bolivar county, this year sowed some acres land in wheat. He has been quite successful, making 23 bushels of good wheat to the acre. The Colonel is so satisfied with his success that he will sow some 700 acres in wheat the coming year.

Many other farmers in the Northern portion of the State are experimenting with wheat, and are generally pleased with their success. While cotton and corn will still be our principal crops, they will be supplemented by wheat, oats, grass, stock-breeding and fruit raising. The high stand the Mississippi fruits obtained at the New Orleans, La., Exposition in 1884-'85—having received premiums to the amount of over \$600, with several gold medals—has given a new impetus to fruit-growing in our State.

The magnificent exhibit of fruits of all kinds made by our State at the Exposition, under the direction of Dr. H. E. McKay, has opened the eyes of our own people, as well as the visitors from the North and West, to the great diversity of our products and to the many new industries that can be successfully inaugurated, and not the least among which will be canning establishments and fruit evaporators.

CHANGE OF SENTIMENTS AND FEELING OF THE NORTH AND WEST TOWARDS THE SOUTH.

The following summary of a letter, written by Gen. F. M. Clarke, and published in the Iowa City Republican, illustrates the change of feeling towards the South. Gen. Clarke, who was a distinguished Union soldier in the war between the States, has recently made a tour of the Southern States, and has learned something of the truth as to the temper of our people and the business progress and possibilities of the section. He declares, that the South of to-day "presents to the view a situation which,

in a social, political and commercial respect, is truly encouraging to the non-partisan and progressive citizen," and that "the social life of the South, is one of the most wonderful illustrations of progress ever presented by a people who had been overcome and their country devastated by war." Gen. Clarke further declares, that "to the man or woman who goes South to-day carrying and maintaining, the spirit of justice to all, and whose honest intentions to benefit the country of their adoption are shown by their works, there is the most hospitable welcome, and this without inquiry as to, or consideration of the political antecedents of the comer." As to loyalty to the Union, Gen. Clarke's observation is that, "it is as fervent and real in the South to-day as in any section." He further states that, "capital, laboring under long and untold disadvantages and reverses in the East, is now seeking the rich harvests of manufactories, mines and fertile fields disclosed by the New South." The day when the lion and the lamb shall lie down together, has not arrived, but in the South of to-day the promises of the best possible conditions of social, political and business affairs could not be brighter or more hopeful."

The above, coming from a gallant soldier, who has taken the pains to inform himself by personal inspection, is testimony that should, with fair-minded men, have more weight than all the criminations and aspersions that ignorance or malice may cast upon the South.

The Rev. W. W. Boyd, a Northern clergyman, has written the following to the Religious Herald of Richmond, Virginia:

"Next to the marvelous recuperation of the South, that which impressed me most were certain marked characteristics of the people. Prominent among these was the determined spirit of

THE YOUNG MEN.

"It will do for old men to be conservative, but when the young men of a community are conservative, there can be but little progress in any direction: Not backwards; but forwards, are the faces of the young men of the South turned. The abolition of slavery, though it wrought hardship and loss to the old, was the greatest blessing that could have come to the young. Many a young man, brought up in ease and luxury, was thus cast upon his own resources, and has since developed real manly strength and character. The New South is strong in its young men. Their sublime faith in the future of the South is a most auspicious omen. Their hearty acquiescence in the issues of the war surprised me. Every prosperous, intelligent young man I met seemed animated to do and to be the most and best for the sake of his native land.

SOUTHERN MANNERS.

"The genial, hospitable spirit of the people I met also greatly won

my admiration. The deliberation and courtesy of the Southerner, at all times and under all circumstance, were in marked contrast with the rush and hurry and crisp manner of our Northern people. In several cities, on asking the way to certain objects of interest, people would stop the horse-car and actually get out and go with me to show the way. This conduct on the part of perfect strangers was to me novel and unaccountable. The presentation of a letter of introduction was the prelude to a host of invitations and social courtesies. It seemed as if they could not do enough to make one feel at home. All this was in sharp contrast with the opinion I had been influenced to entertain, that Northerners were not wanted in the South, and it led me to make special inquiries concerning the question of Northern immigration. I found, throughout the parts of the South I visited, such immigration is received with cordial welcome.

HOW NORTHERN SETTLERS ARE TREATED.

"Scores of Northerners, now residing permanently in the South, spoke in warmest terms of the manner in which they and their families had been received. In business and social life, so far as I could ascertain, there was the greatest freedom and unity there, as here, between people from all parts of the Union. As for myself, I may say evidences of esteem were too numerous, sometimes undeserved.

THE GENERAL FEELING.

"The fact is, with the majority of the Southern people, the war is a bare memory. Those who lost their earthly all in the war, the oldest members of the community, may, for aught I know, still cherish bitter feelings as they recall the past; but the men actively engaged in restoring their land to its strength and beauty are as free from sectional feelings as are those in the North who have been born since 1864. I found that parents were sending their sons to Northern colleges as of old. The most pathetic utterances concerning General Grant's illness were read from Southern papers. Democrats and Republicans were fraternal in their intercourse, as in Americus, Ga., where, I was told, members of both parties had united in asking the President to retain in his office the present incumbent of the postoffice, a Republican. And this kind, general state of feeling seemed all the more remarkable to me, as I looked around and saw on every hand vivid reminders of the past in ruins, fortifications and cemeteries, in which the fairest and the bravest of the sons of the South sleep their last sleep."

HOW TO IMPROVE THE LABOR IN MISSISSIPPI.

For the past three years, ex-Senator Rob't Gleed, of Columbus, Miss., has been lecturing in various portions of the State, impress-

ing upon our colored citizens the great importance of living up to their contracts, being more industrious and economical, and as far as possible, producing all their supplies upon the farm for home-consumption. From all portions of the State where these lectures have been delivered, I have received reports stating that great good has resulted, and that the farm laborers, croppers and renters of land have become more industrious, waste and idle away less time, are more prosperous, live better up to their prospects and condition. This good work should be continued, and I respectfully recommend that an appropriation be made by the incoming Legislature for that purpose, to be expended under the direction and control of the President and Board of Directors of Alcorn University and A. & M. College.

EXPENDITURES FOR 1884 AND 1885.

The amount appropriated by the Legislature for 1884
and 1885 was.....\$9,000 00
Expenditures for 1884 and 1885..... 7,365 91

Balance unexpended.....\$1,634 09

I give below a statement of the expenditures of this Department, the vouchers for which are filed in the State Auditor's office as per date of warrant:

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES.

1884.	
April 3	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage, box rent, etc.....
	\$24 04
June 13	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage, express, etc.....
	85 25
July 3	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage, box rent, etc.....
	47 50
Aug. 11	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for advertising, etc.....
	25 00
Sept. 5	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for advertising, etc.....
	50 00
Oct. 3	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage, freight, etc....
	54 35
Dec. 8	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage, freight, etc.....
	16 80
31	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage, freight, etc....
	28 75
	Salary of Commissioner for 1884.....
	2000 00
Total expenditures for 1884.....	
	\$2327 69

EXPENDITURES FOR 1885.

1885.	
Jan. 14	To amount paid Rand, McNally & Co., for small maps.....
	\$387 50
30	To amount paid Burlington (Iowa) <i>Hawkeye</i> , for publications and advertising.....
	320 00

EXPENDITURES.

29

Feb. 21	To amount paid H. E. Williamson, special agent.....	153 27
21	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage, expenses, etc.....	105 20
March 5	To amount paid Rand, McNally & Co., for maps.....	563 90
6	To amount paid H. E. Williamson, special agent.....	117 80
7	To amount paid J. L. Power, for printing...	625 00
7	To amount paid J. L. Power, for printing...	75 00
31	To amount paid H. E. Williamson, special agent.....	118 10
31	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage, expenses, etc.....	34 15
May 1	To amount paid H. E. Williamson, special agent.....	123 50
29	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage and other expenses.....	34 75
29	To amount paid H. E. Williamson, special agent.....	120 00
June 13	To amount paid J. L. Power, for printing...	155 55
July 25	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage and other expenses.....	15 50
Aug. 29	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage and other expenses.....	16 25
Sept. 26	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage and other expenses.....	14 25
Nov. 2	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage and other expenses.....	18 25
Dec. 2	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage and other expenses.....	25 75
23	To amount paid E. G. Wall, for postage and other expenses.....	14 50
	Salary of Commissioner for 1885.....	2000 00

Total expenditures for 1885.....\$5038 22

Most respectfully submitted,

E. G. WALL, Commissioner.